

HELLO AGAIN

VOL. 32 NO. 5

SEP – OCT, 2001

A PERSONAL NOTE: We lost a dear friend to all of of us. **Raymond Edward Johnson** died on August 15th at the age of 90. All of you who attended our FOTR conventions know that even though his body was immobilized by MS, his voice was not until now...We lost another fan very active in the Golden Radio Buffs. **Bill Wakefield** died on July 13th. Bill and Jane attended out convention for many years...**Hello Again** is going out early so you can receive updated information about the convention in time.

REVISED ULTIMATE HISTORY: Just a reminder that this book was originally written in 1992 and is the first and original book listing Network radio programming and the shows that are in circulation.

The 2001 **"2nd, Revised Ultimate History"** will be ready for our convention in October. The cost will be determined but a discount will be available those who have bought my 1996 version and its 4 supplements. I cannot take any more information.

The **Fourth Supplement of the Necrology** is also available for \$1.00. The complete **Necrology** is \$15.00 which includes all four supplements.

CONVENTION 2001: The dates are October 25 – 28 at the Holiday Inn – North, Newark, NJ. Update with program is attached.

Audio Script Writing Competition Underway

The National Audio Theatre Festivals, (NATF) is currently accepting entries for its annual Script Writing Competition. The 2001-2002 Script Writing Competition will be judged by three accomplished script writers. A new "Script Development" component has also been created to foster to writer's to the medium.

"NATF believes it is important not only to encourage winning playwrights, but to also begin to nurture new writers to the medium," explains NATF President Charles Potter.

"In addition to the ten winning scripts NATF will also select one script from the competition to be developed for future workshop events," explained NATF's Secretary Brian Price.

"This last year we invited one of the non-winners to allow us to work with participants in writing sessions throughout the workshop week to help teach writing skills. This gave us a chance to begin the year-long Script Development process for the author as well as show participants what it takes to evaluate and hone their work," said Price.

A script book featuring the 2000-2001 winning entries is available from NATF for a cost of \$35.00 (Visit www.natf.org for ordering information.)

The National Audio Theatre Festivals **2001- 2002 Script Competition's** deadline is November 15, 2001 (postmarked). The winners will be announced in early April 2002.

Plays will be evaluated on their effective use of dialogue and a demonstration of an understanding of how sound can color and amplify emotional content and set the scene in the listener's mind. NATF is particularly interested in stories that deserve to be told because they enlighten, intrigue or simply make us laugh out loud. Contemporary scripts with strong female roles, multi-cultural casting and diverse viewpoints will be favorably received. (As a matter of policy, scripts specifically written about a 'minority' group will be reviewed by appropriate members of that group – professional actors, writers or directors – before the work is published or produced by NATF.)

The preferred length for scripts is 25 minutes, but longer scripts of up to 30 minutes may be submitted. Each writer must submit **THREE COPIES** of their original radio play — that's

three copies of the one work being submitted. No stage plays, monologues, short stories or screen plays will be reviewed.

PRIZE: \$800 split between 2-4 authors and free workshop production participation. Prize winners and honorable mentions will be published in the annual NATF Script book.

RIGHTS: NATF will have the right to produce the scripts for the NATF Live Performance (Workshop), however, NATF makes no commitment to produce any script. The authors will retain all other rights to their work.

TO SUBMIT:

1. Send THREE typed copies of your one radio script with your name, address and phone number on the title page to: **NATF Script Competition** c/o Sue Zizza, 115 Dikeman Street, Hempstead, NY 11550 *postmarked* by November 15, 2001.

2. Enclose a SASE if you want a copy of the play returned along with judges comments.

3. Enclose a cover letter stating that the script is your work.

4. No adaptations of the work of other authors will be accepted.

5. Only one entry per writer.

6. Enclose \$25.00 entry fee. (U.S. Currency required for all international entries).

Questions? Visit NATF's web site at <natf.org> or call Executive Director Sue Zizza at (516) 483-8321.

The Audio Theatre Workshop is funded in part by The National Endowment for The Arts, The Missouri Arts Council, a state agency.

CONVENTION 2000: FOTR microphone key chains which we gave out to all registrants are available for \$1.55 including P&H. Special 25th Anniversary small desk clocks are available for \$10 including P&H.

Video and Audio cassettes of the 25th Annual FOTR Convention are available from AVPRO (Don Aston). Price of 3 videos and 5 audio cassettes is \$65. Individual videos are \$20 each and the 5 audio cassettes package is \$20. Individual cassettes are separately priced at \$20 each. Prices include shipping.

Don Aston, Box 1392, Lake Elsinore, CA 92531 (1-888-332-8776) FAX 909-244-0022
<aston@linkline.com>

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED: Old-time Radio Digest; Winter; articles about Ozzie and Harriet; Philo Vance; The Big Broadcast of 1976...National Audio Theater News; Spring/Summer; article about Today's Audio Theater...Chattanooga Airwaves; July – August; article about Chattanooga's Movie Theaters...NARA News, Summer; articles about Jack Armstrong; Beginning of Radio Drama; Lulu Belle and Scotty; Radio at War; Tom Mix; Milton Geiger; CD Duplicators; The Breakfast Club; Jimmy Clitheroe; Hawaii Calls. Many thanks to Jim Snyder for his excellent job as editor of this publication. Jim is stepping down after several years of memorable work...Jot 'Em down Journal, August, articles about 2001 convention; Sam Edwards; Rhoda Williams...Return With Us Now, August; Beyond the scenes of the Jack Benny Show...SPERDVAC Radiogram, August, articles about Lum and Abner Convention; Arch Oboler's "Rocket From Manhattan"...Radio Recall, August, articles about The Breakfast Club; Jerry of the Circus...Radio on the screen; The Radio Geniuses...Nostalgia Digest, Oct – Nov; articles about Ralph Edwards; Walter Winchell

BOOKS: (Most books can also be purchased at <www.lofcom.com/nostalgia/books/>, <Amazon.com> or <Barnesandnoble.com>). Greenwood Publishing Group (Box 5007, Westport, CT 06881) has published many bio-bibliographies in the performing arts. James Robert Parish is the series editor. 79 have been published. For a list or to order call 1-800-225-5800 or 1-203-226-3571...Radio Comedy Diary by Gary Poole; \$38.50 plus P&H; 220 pages; paperback; 2001; Mc-

Farland & Company (1-800-253-2187) (1-336-246-4460). This book contains chronologically dated actual jokes and quotes of top radio comedy programs of 1947 – 1950. The author wrote them as he heard them during this time...**The Dead File** by Kevin O'Morrison (will be a guest at our convention); \$16 paperback; 355 pages; 2001. This is a fictional book about the Blacklist era. It is about an actor who isn't blacklisted but whose professional life is changed because of "guilt by association." Purchase on line at Amazon.com; Barnes and Noble.com, etc. or call 1-888-795-4274

CONVENTIONS: SPERDVAC is not having a convention this year.

26th Friends of Old-time Radio Convention, Oct 25 – 28 at the Holiday Inn-North, Newark, NJ; For information contact Jay Hickerson, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514 (203) 248-2887 <JayHick@aol.com>

2002 Williamsburg Film Festival (WFF), February 28, March 1 & 2, 2002; Location: Holiday Inn, Patriot, Williamsburg, VA. (800-446-6001) ; For up-to-date info, go to the WFF web site: <http://go.to/williamsburgfilmfestival>

16th Annual OTR and Nostalgia Convention, Apr 19 – 20, 2002 at the Radisson Hotel in Cincinnati. Contact Bob Burchett, 10280 Gunpowder Rd., Florence, KY 41042 (606) 282-0333.

THE INTERNET: Many of my subscribers are on the Internet. A list was started in November of 1995. A complete alphabetical list can be obtained by sending me a SASE. If you want to get on the mailing list for the Old Time Radio Digest (Round table) on the Internet, e-mail to this address: <old.time.radio-request@oldradio.net>...

WEB SITES: Various OTR Web sites will be posted. Most begin with <www.> Let me know what yours is: **Lou Genco** (many collectors have their sites here including Vintage Broadcasts; Ted Davenport; Ed Carr; Fred Berney; Pat McCoy) <old-time.com>...**Jim Widner** <otr.com> (Radio Days)...**Metro Golden Memories** <mgmemories.com>... **BRC (Bob Burnham)** <brcradio.com/>...**Ted Kneebone** <geocities.com/tkneebone1>...**Jerry Haendiges** <otrsite.com/radiolog/index.html>...**John Cooper** <angelfire.com/wv/otrmagic/index.html> ...**Australian Film and Sound** <Screensound.gov.au>...**Owens Pomeroy (Golden Radio Buffs)** (not www) <members.aol.com/grbmd>.. **OTR Digest** <www.lofcom.com/nostalgia/books/>...**Jack Benny Fan Club** <Jackbenny.org>...**Radio Broadcast Chronicles** <gna.net/tia>...**Tom Heathwood** <HeritageRadio.com>... **First Generation Archives** <radioarchives.org>...**Radio Enthusiasts of Puget Sound** <repsonline.org>...**Terry Salomonson** <audio-classic.com> <digitalotr.com>...The **OTR Club** now has a web page at <<http://www2.pcom.net/robmcd/otrbuffalo/>>

CATALOGS AND NEW SHOWS (All addresses first): **McCoy's Recording** (Pat McCoy), Box 1069, Richland, WA 99352...**Jerry Haendiges**, 13808 Sunset Dr., Whittier, CA 90602 <JHaendiges@aol.com> ...**Roger Hill's "Nothing's New"** 711 San Mateo Ave., San Bruno, CA 94066 (650) 871-6063...**Vintage Broadcasts** (Andy Blatt), Box 50065, Staten Island, NY 10305 (1-800-418-1445)...**Radio Memories** (Ted Davenport), 1600 Wewoka St., North Little Rock, AR 72116 (501) 835-0465 <Tedotr@aol.com>...**Great American Radio (GAR)** (Garry Kramer), Box 504, Genesee, MI 48437...**Bequaert Old Books**, formerly (**Rainy Day Books**), Box 775, Fitzwilliam, NH 03447 (603) 585-3448 <www.beqbooks.com>...**Metro Golden Memories**, 5414 W. Addison St., Chicago, IL 60641 (1-800-538-6675)...**AVPRO** (Don Aston), Box 1392, Lake Elsinore, CA 92531 (1-888-3328776)...**Radio Spirits**, Box 2141, Schiller Park, IL 60176...**Redmond Nostalgia Co.** (David Kiner), Box 82, Redmond, WA 98073...**SPERDVAC Library** (Box 7177, Van Nuys, CA 91409)...**Travis Conner**, 1311 Avon Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45229 <connertm@cinternet.net>...**John Barber**, 1318 Dauphine St., New Orleans, LA 70116 (504) 586-1931... **Vintage Audio** (Tom Martin), 461 Maple Ave., Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 (518) 584-1112 <Thomasmartin2@compuserve.com>...**John Cooper** Rt 1 Box 371, Clarksburg, WV 26301 <Mysto99@aol.com>...**Gordon Payton (The Scifi Guy)**, #114 E Cuthbert Blvd., Westmont, NJ

08108 <thescifiguy@juno.com>...**Satellite Video Production (Fred Berney)** Box 638, Walkersville, MD 21793 (1-800-747-0856) <Berney@fred.net>...**BRC Productions (Bob Burnham)**, Box 158, Dearborn, MI 48127 <platecap@brcradio.com> <www.brcradio.com>...**Hello Again Radio (Bob Burchett)**, 10280 Gunpowder Rd., Florence, KY 41042...**Audio Classic Archive (Terry Salomonson)**, Box 347, Howell, MI 48844 <audio-classic.com>...**Lodestone (Richard Fish)**, 611 Empire Mill Rd., Bloomington, IN 47401; 1-800-411-6463 <lodestone-media.com> (Deals in New Audio Theater)...**Ed Carr**, 216 Shaner St., Boyertown, PA 19512 <edcarr@enter.net>...**Dan Riedstra**, 2830 North Rockwell St., Chicago, IL 60618 <daniel.riedstra@wcom.com>

All listings below list sampling of shows. **Dan Riedstra** has some new shows: The Avenger; 12/9/41; Refreshment Club with Don McNeill; 2/5/37...**Vintage Broadcasts**; The Couple Next Door; Challenge of the Yukon; Tarzan...**John Barber**; John is no longer selling cassettes, just scripts and other paper products; also he is writing scripts. John informs me that Roger Massel of Radio Vault is going out of business and is having a sale. Contact Roger at 8360 Peninsula Dr., W, Stamwood, MI 49346 (888-886-9195)

NEW ADDRESSES: **James Bannister**, 411 Foxberry Lake Run, Fort Wayne, IN 46825...**Jim Nixon**, 12625 Germaine Ave. #7, Appel Valley, MN 55125...**Clair Schulz**, S67 W13702 Fleetwood Rd., Muskego, WI 53150

NEW FRIENDS AND RETURNEES: **Michael Atkinson**, 15211 Freeman Ave., Lawndale, CA 90260...**Joe Eckrich**, 914 Oakmoor Dr., Fenton, MO 63026...**Walt Staves**, 420 Keller St., Sigourney, IA 52591...**Lars Allanson**, 466 Kenwood Ave., Delmar, NY 12054...**John Ross Weber**, George-Gradel WEG 5, 81245 Munich, Germany

OLD FRIENDS: **Mel Simons** begins his 23rd year on WBZ Radio in Boston, MA. Mel appears as a regular on the Steve LeVeille Show. The show is heard in 38 states and Canada. Mel entertains as a comedian and does nostalgia shows on old-time radio and television. In his spare time, Mel announces professional wrestling. (Mel and I go back at least 23 years).

IN FOND MEMORY: **William Booth**, Jul 15, 85; producer and director of radio programs (Meet Mr. Meek; Vox Pop; Perry Mason)...**Joe Graydon**, May 19, 82; Band singer (Your Hit Parade)...**Erik Barnouw**, Jul 19, 93; Historian of Broadcasting. Wrote classic three-volume history of broadcasting in the United States...**Tony Parrish**, Aug 14, 83; played villains on radio shows...**Larry Adler**, Aug 7, 87; harmonica virtuoso; appeared with Jack Benny...**Walter Read**, Aug 20, 85; Actor (Lux)

Hello Again is \$15 a year and is published 6 times a year. The first issue appeared in April of 1970.

Write if you get work; and hang by your thumbs

JAY HICKERSON, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514
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e-mail: JayHick@aol.com

Web site: <http://www.old-time.com/hickers.html>

FOTR Web site: <http://www.lofcom.com/nostalgia/fotr/> (all lower case)

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- *Gunsmoke*
- *Jack Benny*
- *Lum and Abner*
- *Mel Blanc*
- *Phil Harris & Alice Faye*
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Website: www.old-time.com/mccoy

CONVENTION 2001: UPDATE # 2

October 25 – 28, 2001

General Information

All information about Seating, Ads, Registration, Rooms are on the first update that came with the flyer. Also, don't forget to let me know what you are eating for Thursday and please preregister. If you do not let me know what food you want on Thursday, you will get London Broil. Those coming for the day will save \$5 a day by preregistering. Also, if you are coming for the day only, you will not have to stand in line and fill out a registration card if you preregister. Don't forget the package prices. ...Remember: Those people paying for the day must pay an extra \$10 if they want to stay for the cocktail hour and hors d'oeuvres. The cocktail hour is for dinner guests only.

Parking overnight is now \$10 a night per car. If you wish to stay for the re-creations at night and you do not stay for dinner, the cost is \$15.

This convention is dedicated to Raymond Edward Johnson

Guest Changes

Returnees: Pat Hosley

Dealers

There are a few tables left. If all goes well, my Second Revised Ultimate History will be for sale.

Workshops and Re-creations

The complete schedule as of September 9th is enclosed. Re-creation, workshop and panel leaders please take notice. Please make sure that all your participants are aware of the times for rehearsals and performances. If you need anything special, please let me know. If your people need rides, make sure Bill Nadel knows what time they have to be at the convention. He should be called by October 1st (212) 724-0763.

Raffle

There will be a raffle on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. If you would like to donate prizes, please let me know. We depend on the money received from the raffle and the sale of books, records, tapes, t-shirts and pins at the FOTR table to help pay for the many guests we have at our convention. We also will have tote bags and mugs for sale

Books

Books on sale at the convention as of now follow. If authors are tentatively coming, they are marked by an asterisk (*): Some authors will have their own tables; Think Big by *Dick Beals; Bix, The Leon Bix Belderbecke Story by Phil and Linda Evans; I Have a Lady in the Balcony by *George Ansbro; Radio Live - Television Live by *Bob Mott; Dead File by *Kevin O'Morrison; Radio Comedy Diary by Gary Poole; Great Radio Heroes by Jim Harmon; Religious Radio by Hal Erickson; Great Radio Audience Participation Shows (if available) by Jim Cox; Russ Columbo by *Lou Milano; Don McNeill by John Doolittle; Just the Facts, Ma'am by Daniel Moyer and Eugene Alvarez; Encyclopedia of American Radio by *Ron Lackmann; Philo T. Farnsworth by Donald Godfrey; Martin Grams, Art Singer and Michael Hayde will be selling their own books.

Hotel

Don't forget to reserve your rooms quickly. They may very soon be all sold out. Call the Holiday Inn-North directly during business hours for reservations (1-973-589-1000) and ask for Alicia. Also call the 800 numbers for Howard Johnson and the Sheraton for the best prices.

A tentative schedule Follows (As of September 10th)

Wednesday: Dealers tables and possibly sound equipment set up at night
Complimentary Wine and cheese from 6 pm to 10 pm.

Thursday: The sound equipment and the stage will be set up. Dealers will be open at 9 am.

12:30 - 2:30	Fan tryout for Variety Show (Dresden) (Dave Zwengler)
2:30 - 4:00	Rehearsal for Variety Show (Dresden)
1:45 - 2:30	In Name Only (Derek Tague with Barbara Schwarz)
2:45 - 3:45	One on One with Will Hutchins (M Weisberg)
3:45 - 4:30	(Rehearsal for The Avenger)
4:30 - 5:30	The Avenger (T Powers)
5:30 - 8:00	Cocktails and Dinner; raffle
8:00 - 8:45	Original re-creation by K E Bibeau (Fu Manchu) directed by Arthur Anderson)
(Rehearsal 4 - 5:30 pm; reading 2:45 - 3:45 pm)	
9:00 - 9:30	(Open)
9:45 - 10:30	Variety show by fans

Friday Morning and Afternoon

9:00 - 9:45	Top Ten Mystery shows (Gary Yoggy)
10:00 - 10:45	Radio Script Writing (A Anderson, D Zwengler, J Gallagher); Other workshops will be held Saturday from 9:30 to 11:30 am and 1 - 3 pm in the Sutton Room with John Gallagher
11:00 - 11:45	A Presentation by George Downes about mp3's and computers in OTR
12:00 - 1:00	One on One with Ben Cooper (M Weisberg)
1:15 - 2:00	Jean Shepard, Part 2 (Max Schmid)
2:15 - 3:15	Tommy Cook celebrates Arch Oboler's genius and World War II
3:30 - 4:30	Remember Pearl Harbor (G Yoggy, D Zwengler)
4:45 - 5:30	(Re-creation) (Original musical story) "The Man who Couldn't Make Music" John Gallagher (Director) of the Living Audio Repertory Company; Book and Music by Eric Houghton; (Rehearsal 3:00 - 4:30)

Friday Evening

5:30 - 7:45	Cocktails and Dinner, raffle
8:00 - 8:45	(Re-creation) Charlie Wild with Kevin O'Morrison; Dir. by Don Ramlow)
(Rehearsal 1:30 - 3:00; Reading 12:15 - 1:15)	
9:00 - 9:30	(Re-creation of Chick Carter with Dick Beals) Directed by Anthony Tollin
9:45 - 10:30	(Re-creation) Red Ryder with Tommy Cook and Frank Bresee; Dir. by Anthony Tollin
(Rehearsal 12:00 - 1:30; Reading 10:45 - 11:45)	

Saturday Morning and Afternoon

9:00 - 9:45	Radio Visits to the Military (M Henry)
10:00 - 10:45	Who Wants to be An OTR Trivia Champion - Part 2 (M Weisberg)
11:00 - 11:45	Jack French presents "Radio's Breakfast Couples"
12:00 - 12:45	Gotham Players (Re-creation) Suspense "Heavens to Betsy" with Dick Beals; Directed and produced by Steve Lewis and Max Schmid; (Rehearsal 10:15 - 11:45) (Reading: 9:00 - 10:00 am)
1:00 - 2:00	Dragnet Panel hosted by Derek Tague; Guests could include Art Gilmore, Michael Hayde, Peggy Webber
2:15 - 3:15	Panel - 50 years of "The Golden days of Radio" with Frank Bresee and Anthony Tollin
3:30 - 4:45	Singers, musicians and Big Bands, Part 4 (Stu Weiss and Michael Henry) with possible guests so far: Kitty Kallen, Beverly Washburn, Russell Arms, Michael Townsend Wright and authors John Jackson and Lou Miano
5:00 - 5:30	Re-creation: Lorenzo Jones ; Directed by Bill Nadel (Rehearsal 4 - 5; Reading 3 - 3:45)

Saturday Evening

5:30 - 8:00	Cocktails and Dinner, raffle, awards
8:00 - 8:30	(Re-creation) Ethel and Albert with Peg Lynch and Bob Hastings (Rehearsal 9:15 - 10:00 am)
8:45 - 9:30	(Re-creation) Lights Out ("Mad World") directed by Arthur Anderson with Cliff Carpenter (Rehearsal 1 - 2:30; Reading 11:45 - 12:45)
9:45 - 10:30	(Re-creation) Life of Riley ; directed by Gary Yoggy (Rehearsal 2:30 - 4:00; Reading 1:15 - 2:15)

Sunday Morning

7:30 - 9:30 am	Breakfast
9:30 - 11:00 am	Informal Panel (Dresden Room)